

through the season and no apparent deduction can be made from this. The rare species were shot almost equally on both sides of the peninsula. It is clear that, unless my totals were weighted to a most unlucky degree, and allowing for mistakes, both the fantail and Swinhoe's snipe are rarities in the Malay Peninsula.

Records from two other countries to the west and east of the Peninsula, have lately come to my notice. Mr. Banks in the annual reports on the Sarawak museum records the occurrence of these species in Sarawak over a period of four years—1927, 1928, 1929, and 1931. Unfortunately no reference is made to the number of pintail shot, presumably considerable as it is the common snipe of the country, but the other two species are evidently worth recording as rarities. The figures are—1927. 3 fantail, 2 Swinhoe. 1928. 2 fantail. 1929. 1 fantail, 1 Swinhoe. 1931. 2 fantail. 2 Swinhoe.

In a note on the distribution of Swinhoe's snipe in Bengal in *Journ., Bomb. Nat. Hist. Soc.*, Vol. 42, p. 442, by Mr. R. J. Clough (1940), there is the remarkable record—

'The first Swinhoe's snipe to turn up in a total of over 16600 in bags made since 1926-7 all within a radius of 40 miles from Calcutta' (all examined for varieties). The fantail there is the common visitor.

In the Philippines *megala* is said to be 'very abundant at certain seasons in the ricefields'. (Hachisuka).

The bird's migration is evidently in an easterly direction towards the Moluccas rather than south and west. It is noticeable that the general line apparently follows the northern edge of the Sunda shelf, and at right angles to the prevailing wind—the N.E. (China) monsoon—which blows strongly during that season.

SEEND, WILTSHIRE.

J. E. KEMPE.

November 1945.

21.—OCCURRENCE OF THE WHOOPER SWAN [*CYGNUS CYGNUS* (LINN.)] AND GREATER EUROPEAN BUSTARD (*OTIS TARDA* LINN.) IN THE PUNJAB.

His Excellency the Governor has asked me to write and tell you about the occurrence of several unusual birds in the Peshawar District during the last month.

On the 29th December 1946 a single lone Whooper swan was shot at Dera Mohmin on the Kabul River in the Peshawar District. This is the third occasion in the last thirty years when this bird has been met with in this area. One was shot at the same spot by Mr. Domely I.P. in December 1910, and another by Brigadier Sir Hissamuddin Khan from a flock of four in 1927.

A Greater European Bustard was shot on the Cajuri Plain on the 5th January 1947. It appeared to be a young female in rather poor condition, and its weight when cleaned was about $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.